

**Department of Transportation
Project Nos. 69-79 and 172-393
Replacement of Bridge Nos. 02680, 06665, 06739 and 06740
Route 148 over an unnamed brook
Route 82 over Great Brook
Route 148 over Bunker Hill Brook
Route 148 over Lane District Brook
Towns of Killingworth and Chester**

**Thursday, June 12, 2014
All Purpose Room of the Killingworth Elementary School
340 Route 81
Killingworth, Connecticut**

Minutes

Present:

Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT)

Timothy Fields, Louis Bacho, Lesgie Ruiz, David Harms, Ahsan Saghir, Meredith Andrews, Michael Marzi, John Dunn

Close, Jensen and Miller, P.C. (CJM)

Edward Sakl III

A. DiCesare Associates, P.C.

Arthur DiCesare, Julie Georges, Joseph Solis

Town of Killingworth

Catherine Iino (First Selectman)

Walter Adametz (Highway Foreman)

12 Residents

Presentation: A Joint Public Information Meeting for State Project No. 69-79, Replacement of Bridge No. 02680, Route 148 over an unnamed brook in Killingworth, and State Project No. 172-393, Replacement of Bridge Nos. 06665, 06739 and 06740, Route 82 over Great Brook, Route 148 over Bunker Hill Brook and Route 148 over Lane District Brook was held at the All Purpose Room of the Killingworth Elementary School in Killingworth, CT, on June 12, 2014, at 7:00 pm. Approximately twelve (12) residents, the First Selectman and the Highway Foreman attended the meeting. Lesgie Ruiz of CTDOT opened the meeting with a brief introduction of the Project No. 69-79 team. Edward Sakl III of CJM gave a description of existing Bridge No. 02680 and explained the reasons for the replacement of the existing bridge. Joseph Solis of A. DiCesare Associates, P.C., gave a description of the proposed bridge and roadway work. Meredith Andrews gave a description of the existing bridges for Project No. 172-393 and explained the proposed rehabilitation and replacement measures for the respective bridges. It was explained to the attendees that the majority of the work for the three bridges on Route 148 will be performed utilizing an eight (8) week detour in the summer of 2015. The proposed detour length is 19 miles long, utilizing Route 148 (Killingworth-Durham Road), Route 79 (Madison-Durham Road), Route 80 (Old Toll Road), and Route 81 (Higganum Road). Overall, the projects were well received.

Michael Marzi explained the property acquisition process, which was followed by a brief question and answer period.

Public Comments and Questions: The following questions/concerns were raised and discussed at the meeting.

- Walter Adametz, Town of Killingworth Highway Foreman, cited concern with Bridge No. 02486 (Project No. 69-77). That bridge, which carries Route 79 over Hammonasset Brook in Killingworth, will be constructed using an alternating one-way traffic scheme controlled by temporary signals during the same summer that the Route 148 projects are proposed to be constructed. His concerns were specific to the summer traffic volume and he asked if traffic counts were taken during the summer months on Route 79. Ed Sakl III responded that there were no traffic counts taken during the summer months and that the Department would look into whether the data was available. If the counts are not available, they will be requested to be performed in July.
- One resident questioned whether eight (8) weeks was sufficient time to complete the Route 148 bridges. Ed Sakl III stated that eight (8) weeks is sufficient time and that incentives and disincentives will be included in the contract. Lesgie Ruiz stated that the Department is moving towards accelerated projects to reduce construction duration and impact to the traveling public.
- One resident stated that he lives and operates a trucking business about midpoint of the 6-mile stretch of Route 148 and was concerned with the cost of the detour (fuel cost to operate his vehicles). He further iterated that the local roads could not accommodate his trucks due to the poor condition of the pavement and low lying branches of trees. Ed Sakl III reiterated that the Contractor will only be allowed to close one bridge at a time on Route 148 and that the proposed detour time is eight (8) weeks.
- Residents inquired about adequate notice and emergency service routes with regard to road closure. They made suggestions such as variable message boards, mailings, site signage, and signage in neighboring towns/communities. Ed Sakl III and Lesgie Ruiz stated that proper notification in regards to the detour will be provided by District 2 Construction and that the Contract will include variable message signs and adequate signing notifying motorists of the construction projects. The emergency services will be made aware of the project and will coordinate with surrounding towns during the detour to ensure adequate coverage of the area.
- Residents asked about specific time stipulations for each of the three bridges along Route 148. Ed Sakl III stated that eight (8) weeks is the allotted detour duration and that incentives and disincentives will be included in the contract.

The anticipated construction duration is eight (8) months. It is anticipated that the roadway closure will occur during an eight (8) week period during the summer months. The Contractor will only be allowed to close one bridge at a time and will

be allowed to choose the order in which they are constructed. Construction is planned for 2015 pending receipt of the environmental permits and availability of funds.

The meeting ended at 8:45 p.m. with informal discussions between various parties present.